

She works as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Meadowbrook Nursing Home, where she treats each resident with respect and the highest quality of care. Going above and beyond what is required of her to help others, she has twice provided potentially life-saving assistance at accidents outside of her job. As proof of her dedication to serving her community, she received the Presidential Award at her CV-TEC graduation. This young woman serves as a great example to the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York.

Ms. Maggy truly embodies the spirit of helping her neighbor, which is present throughout the North Country. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to thank Ms. Maggy for her commitment to her community and congratulate her for this well-deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO JEAN HALE

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable career and astute leadership of my dear friend, Jean Hale of Pikeville, Kentucky, who plans to retire after dedicating 52 years in the banking industry in Central Appalachia, serving as Chairwoman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Community Trust Bancorp for the last 23 years.

Jean Hale joined Community Trust in 1969 and progressed through the officer ranks, working twice as hard to make her mark in a male-dominated industry. In 1992, she was named President and CEO of Community Trust Bank and seven years later, became president and CEO of Community Trust Bancorp. In 2005, Chairwoman was added to her growing list of leadership roles. During her tenure, the company's total assets increased 152 percent from \$2.2 billion on December 31, 1999, to \$5.5 billion on June 30, 2021, with banking locations in Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

She credits her stellar work ethic to her parents. Her father was a coal mining electrician, and she refers to her mother as a "home-making engineer" for making their clothes, raising their garden and canning goods. Together, they put Jean and her three siblings through college with no debt, moving from Grapevine to Pikeville so they could live at home and go to college, saving money on room and board. Jean has carried the same financial wisdom and skills throughout her career, even making her own suits when she first started working for Community Trust.

Over the year, her counsel and expertise have been highly sought after among financial sector experts, leading her to become Chairwoman of the Board of the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority and a member of the Kentucky Economic Development Partnership Board, the Commonwealth Seed Capital, LLC Board, the University of Pikeville Board of Trustees, the ARH Foundation Board, and the Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

In addition to her work in the banking industry, I am personally grateful for Jean's commit-

ment to SOAR—Shaping Our Appalachian Region—a non-profit organization that she helped launch to revitalize rural communities in Kentucky's Appalachian region as a result of the downturn of the coal industry. Jean was one of the first leaders that I personally asked to help establish SOAR. The initiative that started in 2013 is now a comprehensive regional movement that is effectively shaping a brighter future for the people of southern and eastern Kentucky. Since day one, she has served on the SOAR Executive Committee and as Chair of the Development Committee and Finance Committee. Thanks to her leadership, SOAR is a thriving, self-sustaining grassroots organization that is empowering economic development and growth where we need it the most.

The characteristic that sets Jean apart is her passion. She deeply loves Eastern Kentucky and watching our region thrive despite our challenges. I count it a great honor to celebrate my friend, Jean Hale and the countless accomplishments that she has made on behalf of so many Central Appalachian families and businesses. May her retirement be blessed by many wonderful years with her family and beloved grandchildren.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF GERDA M. FITTS (KRUEGER)

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the steadfast service of one of Missouri's World War II U.S. Cadet Nurses, Gerda Fitts (Krueger).

Born in 1924, Gerda grew up during the Great Depression, where she helped on the family farm, read the Bible and helped with the chores around her family home. Gerda graduated high school while America was engaged in World War II. Her father had served in World War I and seeing her brothers' commitment to fight for their country in World War II, encouraged a patriotic earning within her soul. Thus, determined to do her part, Gerda enlisted in the United States Nursing Corps in 1943. This was when God first called her to serve others, and the time spent doing His work set her on a path she has been following ever since. After getting out of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, Gerda started working for the Wentworth Military Academy as the social director. She taught etiquette class to the young boys who attended Wentworth Military Academy. It was during this time that she met her now-husband, James 'Jim' Fitts, an Air Force veteran who had just retired after serving a dedicated 34 years. Gerda and Jim both retired from Wentworth Military Academy, Gerda as the social director and Jim as the Academy Commandant. After their retirement, they moved to Hermitage, Missouri, where they have both continued serving their community.

Gerda Fitts has been alive nearly a century. During this time, she has seen the world advance in ways she could have never dreamed. She had to live through the horrors of the Great Depression, a World War, and a Cold War. She has witnessed 17 Presidential administrations and has watched as America had its ups and downs. Through it all, she remains

the same humble, sweet, caring woman who never forgets to check on her friends, and who truly loves her community and country.

Although the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps is not recognized as a formal branch of service, it is important that women like Gerda are recognized for their service to our country during World War II. Please join me in honoring Gerda Fitts for her steadfast service to our Nation.

CONGRATULATING BLACK HAWK COLLEGE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Black Hawk College for its 75th Anniversary. Black Hawk College has long been an excellent college in our district.

Black Hawk College started off as Moline Community College in 1946, and was located at Moline High School. The College accommodated World War II veterans seeking higher education and offered transfer, career, and adult education classes. In 1961 it became Black Hawk College, which was the first county-wide junior college in Illinois. Black Hawk College expanded as neighboring school districts petitioned to join its district. In 1965, with the passage of "The Illinois Public Junior College Act," Black Hawk College became part of the state's system of higher education, committed to offering traditional liberal arts courses, occupational courses, and adult education courses at its campus in Moline. I commend Black Hawk College for all it has done for students and community colleges in our district.

It is because of community leaders such as Black Hawk College that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize and congratulate Black Hawk College for its 75th Anniversary.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 132

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor American Legion Post 132 of Orange, California, an inspiring organization dedicated to supporting veterans, national security, Americanism, and our community and its young people.

For more than ten decades, American Legion Post 132 has helped veterans adjust to life after service. It has served as a second home for some, helped others find jobs, and offered many the chance to forge lifelong friendships.

Post 132 was organized in 1919, the same year the American Legion was chartered by Congress as a patriotic veterans organization. Post 132 then received its temporary charter December 17, 1919 and its official charter October 1, 1920, making it one of the earliest